IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of screening for therapeutic agents useful in the treatment of a disease ~~comprised in a group of diseases~~ selected from the group consisting of cardiovascular disorders, gastrointestinal and liver diseases, inflammatory diseases, hematological disorders, respiratory diseases, neurological disorders, urological disorders, thrombocytopenia and myeloma in a mammal comprising the steps of

> i) contacting a test compound with a EDG6 polypeptide,

> ii) detecting ~~detect~~ binding of said test compound to said EDG6 polypeptide.

2. (currently amended) A method of screening for therapeutic agents useful in the treatment of a disease ~~comprised in a group of diseases~~ selected from the group consisting of cardiovascular disorders, gastrointestinal and liver diseases, inflammatory diseases, hematological disorders, respiratory diseases, neurological disorders, urological disorders, thrombocytopenia and myeloma in a mammal comprising the steps of

> i) determining the activity of a EDG6 polypeptide at a certain concentration of a test compound or in the absence of said test compound,

> ii) determining the activity of said polypeptide at a different concentration of said test compound.

3. (currently amended) A method of screening for therapeutic agents useful in the treatment of a disease ~~comprised in a group of diseases~~ selected from the group of diseases consisting of cardiovascular disorders, gastrointestinal and liver diseases, inflammatory diseases, hematological disorders, respiratory diseases, neurological disorders, urological disorders, thrombocytopenia and myeloma in a mammal comprising the steps of

> i) determining the activity of a EDG6 polypeptide at a certain concentration of a

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test compound,

ii) determining the activity of a EDG6 polypeptide <u>in</u> ~~at~~ the presence of a compound known to be a regulator of a EDG6 polypeptide.

4. (currently amended) The method of <u>claim 1</u> ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~, wherein the step of contacting is in or at the surface of a cell.

5. (currently amended) The method of <u>claim 1</u> ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~, wherein the cell is *in vitro*.

6. (currently amended) The method of <u>claim 1</u> ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~, wherein the step of contacting is in a cell- free system.

7. (currently amended) The method of <u>claim 1</u> ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~, wherein the polypeptide is coupled to a detectable label.

8. (currently amended) The method of <u>claim 1</u> ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~, wherein the compound is coupled to a detectable label.

9. (currently amended) The method of <u>claim 1</u> ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~, wherein the test compound displaces a ligand which is first bound to the polypeptide.

10. (currently amended) The method of <u>claim 1</u> ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~, wherein the polypeptide is attached to a solid support.

11. (currently amended) The method of <u>claim 1</u> ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~, wherein the compound is attached to a solid support.

12. (currently amended) A method of screening for therapeutic agents useful in the treatment of a disease ~~comprised in a group of diseases~~ <u>selected from the group</u> consisting of cardiovascular disorders, gastrointestinal and liver diseases, inflammatory diseases, hematological disorders, respiratory diseases, neurological disorders, urological disorders,

thrombocytopenia and myeloma in a mammal comprising the steps of

      i) contacting a test compound with a EDG6 polynucleotide,

      ii) detect binding of said test compound to said EDG6 polynucleotide.

13. (original) The method of claim 12 wherein the nucleic acid molecule is RNA.

14. (original) The method of claim 12 wherein the contacting step is in or at the surface of a cell.

15. (original) The method of claim 12 wherein the contacting step is in a cell-free system.

16. (currently amended) The method of claim 12 wherein ~~the~~ polynucleotide is coupled to a detectable label.

17. (original) The method of claim 12 wherein the test compound is coupled to a detectable label.

18. (currently amended) A method of diagnosing a disease ~~comprised in a group of diseases~~ selected from the group consisting of cardiovascular disorders, gastrointestinal and liver diseases, inflammatory diseases, hematological disorders, respiratory diseases, neurological disorders, urological disorders, thrombocytopenia and myeloma in a mammal comprising the steps of

      i) determining the amount of a EDG6 polynucleotide in a sample taken from said mammal,

      ii) determining the amount of EDG6 polynucleotide in healthy and/or diseased mammals.

19-20. (canceled)

21. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of a disease

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comprised in a group of diseases selected from the group consisting of cardiovascular disorders, gastrointestinal and liver diseases, inflammatory diseases, hematological disorders, respiratory diseases, neurological disorders, urological disorders, thrombocytopenia and myeloma in a mammal comprising a therapeutic agent which regulates the activity of a EDG6 polypeptide, wherein said therapeutic agent is

i) a small molecule,

ii) an RNA molecule,

iii) an antisense oligonucleotide,

iv) a polypeptide,

v) an antibody, or

vi) a ribozyme.

22. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of a disease comprised in a group of diseases selected from the group consisting of cardiovascular disorders, gastrointestinal and liver diseases, inflammatory diseases, hematological disorders, respiratory diseases, neurological disorders, urological disorders, thrombocytopenia and myeloma in a mammal comprising a EDG6 polynucleotide.

23. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of a disease comprised in a group of diseases selected from the group consisting of cardiovascular disorders, gastrointestinal and liver diseases, inflammatory diseases, hematological disorders, respiratory diseases, neurological disorders, urological disorders, thrombocytopenia and myeloma in a mammal comprising a EDG6 polypeptide.

24-26. (canceled)

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